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ADVANCES OF THE LATIN-AMERICAN REGIONAL IAMSLIC GROUP.

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ABSTRACT: In this year of 2005 our goals are to work in the following areas of the Latin-American Group:

- Affiliation: to increase the group's affiliation in Central and South America. It is very important the affiliation to IAMSLIC and to the Latin-American Regional Group. We will continue to promoting the affiliation to IAMSLIC, sending information to several prospect institutions and also updating the information in the web site of the Group, in order to provide information and its actualization in both languages: English and Spanish. <http://ola.icmyl.unam.mx/larg>.
- Elaboration of the Latin-American Union Catalog, this action is under way with the help of Steve Watkins and German Ramirez. We expect by midyear to have the serials holdings of most of the groups participants.
- To support the document delivery project, by allocating the funds to some of the institutions in Central and South America, in order to promote the Latin-American collection.
- To establish communication with participants via messenger in order to have a stronger, dynamic and interactive conversation with the Group, having as the main objective the growing and the advance of the Group. This action was started in April.
- We have the maintenance and updating of the 2 e-mail lists (one of the Latin-American Regional Group and the another the prospects institutions).
- The development of the EPCOR and ODINCARSA projects.

ADVANCES

During 2004-2005, we have been working in the following areas of the Latin-American Group:

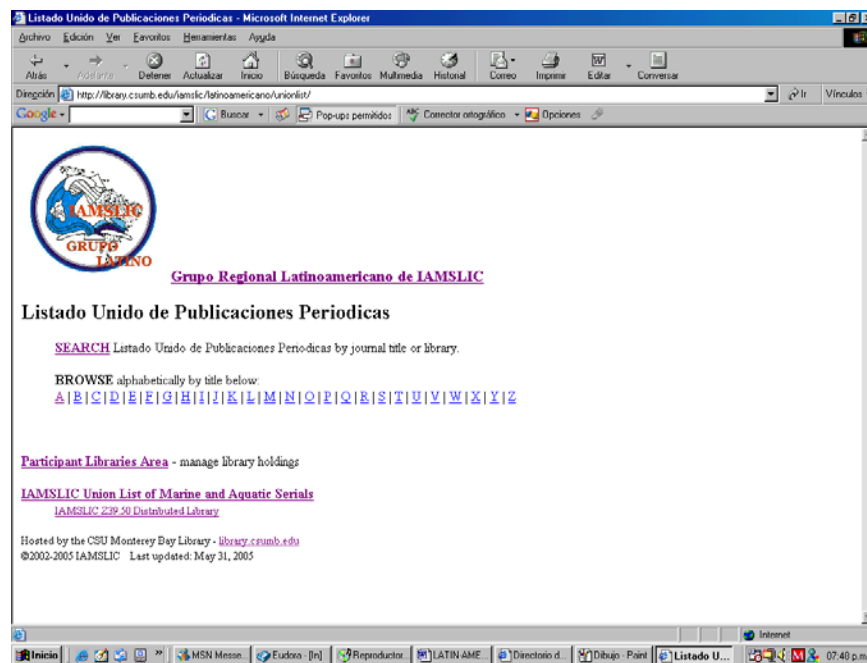
Affiliation: the goal to increase the group's affiliation in Central and South America is very important for this emerging group, and in order to promote IAMSLIC affiliation, the membership brochure was translated into Spanish in October of 2004. We have contacted several prospective institutions and also updated the information on the web site of the

Group, providing information and actualization in both languages: English and Spanish.
<http://ola.icmyl.unam.mx/larg>

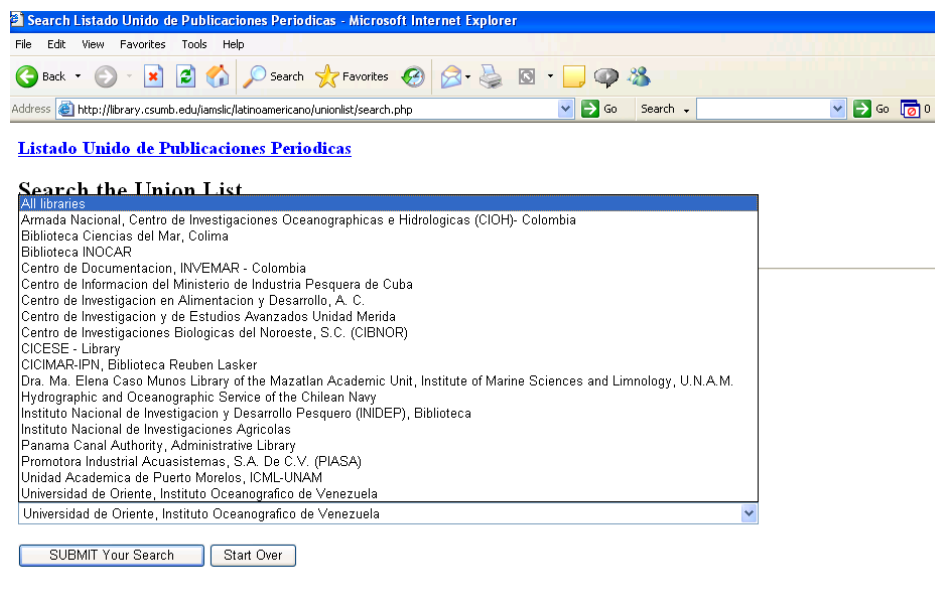
In 2004 we were 32 members from 11 countries. Now in 2005, we are 37 members, from 12 Latin-American countries: Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay.

The New Latin-American Regional Union List of Serials, which includes more than 8,350 holdings, records from 17 libraries across the region. This action was possible with the great participation and enthusiastic support of 17 members of the Latin American Regional Group and the great help and volunteer collaboration of Steve Watkins and German Ramirez with the development of a database, transfer of information, and setting up the holdings in The Union List of Serials home page at the following web site:

<http://library.csumb.edu/iamslic/latinoamericano/unionlist>



The new Latin- American Regional Union List of Serials includes 17 libraries from 9 countries: Argentina (1), Chile (1), Colombia (2), Cuba (1), Ecuador (1), Mexico (8), Panama (1), Peru (1), and Venezuela (1). These libraries have more than 8,350 holding records.



There are several advantages to this approach: You can browse alphabetically by serial title or by library. Also you can make a request directly.

To support the document delivery project, by allocating the funds to some of the institutions in Central and South America, in order to promote the Latin-American collection.

In this year, 4 institutions were beneficiated with a scanners sponsoring for the IAMS LIC, ODINCARSA and 4 institutions were beneficiated with the sponsoring of EPCOR.

The models that support Ariel have been very difficult to obtain in different Latin-America Regions. Now we bought 8 scanners and one ARIEL license. 9 Institutions from 6 countries were beneficiated: Panama, Venezuela, Ecuador, Cuba, Peru and Colombia.

Actually the institutions were working with some others software for digitalize the scientific documents and sharing their holding, through the Union List of the Latin-American Regional Group, sending the information by pdf, ARIEL.

We have established communication with participants via messenger in order to have a stronger, dynamic and interactive communication with the Group. The main objective is to have an interactive communication to discuss and make decisions to move with the reference terms of the Group. This kind of technology permits us the advance and growth of the Regional Latin-American Group.

This action was started in March 2005, through the messenger. Actually 21 of our members have a hotmail or msn e/mail account. With this interaction, we can have

contact with some of the members; only we have to put an accessible hour for most of the members, because we are 12 countries with different time. We have had 6 chat sessions and one of the most important discussions was about the importance to have our holdings in a list or catalog with the volunteer collaboration from German so he could explain how the people could send the information in what program, and be on hand for any doubts and concerns.

With this kind of technology there are no frontiers and the IAMSLIC people can do more things together.

The maintenance and updating of the 2 e-mail lists (one of the Latin-American Regional Group and another of the prospects institutions) and the website.

E-mail List and Website:

In order to have a better communication with all the members of this Latin-American Group, we continue updating the two e-mail lists:

Biblio_latino@ola.icmyl.unam.mx and Biblio_inst@ola.icmyl.unam.mx

The first listserv is only for the Latin-American Group members. The Second one is mainly encouraging institutions to join IAMSLIC.

The Mazatlan Academic Unit of the Institute of Marine Science and Limnology, U.N.A.M., continues hosting the WEB SITE for the Latin-American Regional Group of IAMSLIC. The address is: <http://ola.icmyl.unam.mx/larg>

The website manager is Carlos Suarez. He is another volunteer of the Group and he is working with the web page site and with the two List servers.

The development of the EPCOR and ODINCARSA projects.

-Projects of common interest are expected to be continued and undertaken by members of the group next year.

Collaboration: We are committed to continue collaborating and promoting with ODINCARSA/IOC, UNESCO and EPCOR, for mutual benefits with the projects: Electronic Delivery Document Network (information and data exchange project) and with the implementation of a regional network of bibliographic electronic catalogues and other projects.

Such the creation of ODINPubCARSA, starting with 10 Latin American participants in the training course IODE/ODINCARSA Training Program 2005 Marine Information Management on "E-Repository" promoted by ODINCARSA, Rodney Martinez, to be held in Oostende, Belgium from 9 -19 November 2005.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- To obtain more participation of the members for the Latin-American Union List.
- Annual Meeting. We will try to have in 2005-2006 our First Regional Latin-American Group Meeting. We will coordinate together with the working committee the options and the organization of this first meeting and the best probability is that we will have a virtual videoconference regional group meeting. We are looking to do it through INTERNET 2, and we will contact the institutions that have this technology in each country to ask for their support.
- Get some support that can promote the regional group meetings and for the attending of more Latin American people the IMASLIC Annual Conference.
- To continue looking for funds to obtain more equipment and software for the development of the electronic document delivery.
- We will be the direct link of the group with IAMSLIC, to get fellowships and capacity building opportunities for members of the group.
- To establish one or two sessions per month, trough via messenger. This kind of communication is more interactive and it is important for continue a stronger contact with Latin American people to advance with the goals of the group.
- We will promote the group in order to get more members.
- We will keep in touch with the members, promoting the mutual cooperation, the knowledge and experience transference in information and libraries management.
- Finally, we recommend that IAMSLIC, ODINCARSA/IOC, UNESCO, EPCOR continue the support of the Latin-American Regional Group activities, especially on projects of mutual benefits and regional group meetings.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

The Latin-American Regional Group is very grateful with IAMSLIC, especially with the Executive Board, ODINCARSA/IOC, UNESCO and EPCOR for their support, patience and help with the advances of this Regional Group. We would like to continue with this invaluable help.

We are indebted with Steve Watkins and German Ramirez Resendiz for their great and volunteer help with the developing of a database, transfer the information and set up the holdings of 17 institutions in The Latin American Union List of Serial.

Thanks to IAMSLIC and to the authorities and staff of the Institute of Marine Sciences and Limnology, U.N.A.M., for their support to attend this conference.

Also, we are very grateful for the Mazatlan Academic Unit of the Institute of Marine Sciences and Limnology, U.N.A.M., for the hosting the Latin-American Regional Group Web Page and to Carlos Suarez for the website manager.

Finally, thanks a lot to Amelia, Catalina, Federico, Roman, Luis Guillermo, Marcela, Natalia, Pedro and Moni for their facilities to help me with the activities as a coordinator of the Latin-American Regional Group.